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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,649	07/22/2003	Jerry Wu		9730
25859	7590	09/21/2005		
			EXAMINER	
			LEON, EDWIN A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/625,649	WU, JERRY	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Edwin A. León	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 July 2003.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 22 July 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/03</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Double Patenting

1. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

2. Claims 1-2 and 7-15 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of Wu (U.S. Patent No. 6,905,373). Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not

patentably distinct from each other because it recites the limitations presented in the current application but in different order and with additional limitations. (Example: the latching bosses mentioned in Claim 8 of the current application and in Claim 2 of the Wu patent).

3. Claims 3-6 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of Wu (U.S. Patent No. 6,905,373) in view of Peterson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,969). Wu (Claims 1-4) discloses the claimed invention except for the housing defining a pair of channels at upper corners of the cavity, and the vertical arms have a pair of ribs at top ends thereof received in the channels.

Peterson et al. (Figs. 4-5) discloses a similar connector having a housing (12) defining a pair of channels (22) at upper corners of the cavity (16), and a contact (14) having a pair of ribs (48) at top ends thereof received in the channels.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the assembly of Wu by having the housing defining a pair of channels at upper corners of the cavity, and have a pair of ribs at top ends thereof received in the channels as taught in Peterson et al. in order to prevent movement from the contacts laterally or angularly relative to the housing. (Peterson et al., Column 3, Lines 45-49).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-2 and 7-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohsumi (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,326) in view of Peloza (U.S. Patent No. 5,362,260).

With regard to Claims 1-2 and 9-15, Ohsumi discloses a cable assembly comprising: an insulating housing (A) defining a cavity (1); a contact (B) received in the cavity (1) of the housing (A), the contact (B) comprising an intermediate portion (5), a central contact beam (8) extending from adjacent one end of the intermediate portion (5), and a tail portion (B2) extending from an opposite end of the intermediate portion (5); and a cable (W) terminated to the tail portion (B2) of corresponding contact (B), the intermediate portion (5) having a front end and rear end. See Figs. 1-6.

However, Ohsumi doesn't show the housing having a plurality of cavities receiving a plurality of cables and contacts having pair of side contact beams extending from two opposite sides of the intermediate portion, the side contact beams are located between the first and the second curved portions of the central contact beam along a longitudinal direction of the contact, the side contact beams comprise a pair of vertical arms located at opposite sides of the first spring arm and a pair of resilient side arms

extending rearwardly from the vertical arms and having connecting portions extending toward each other.

Peloza discloses a similar connector assembly (10, 12) having a housing (12) having a plurality of cavities (14) receiving a plurality of cables (W) and contacts (10) having a pair of side contact beams (40) extending from two opposite sides of an intermediate portion (28), the side contact beams (40) comprise a pair of vertical arms (44, 46) located at opposite sides and a pair of resilient side arms (36) extending rearwardly from the vertical arms (44, 46) and having connecting portions (Fig. 2) extending toward each other. See Figs. 1-6.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the assembly of Ohsumi by including a pair of side contact beams extending from two opposite sides of an intermediate portion, the side contact beams comprise a pair of vertical arms located at opposite sides and a pair of resilient side arms extending rearwardly from the vertical arms and having connecting portions extending toward each other as taught in Peloza in order to provide a more effective and resilient engagement between the assembly and a mating male connector.

With regard to Claim 7, Ohsumi discloses the cable (W) including an inner conductive core (shown in Fig. 1) and an outer insulator (shown in Fig. 1) surrounding the inner conductive core (shown in Fig. 1), the cable (W) having an exposed conductive core (shown in Fig. 1) at one end thereof, and wherein the tail portion (B2) comprises two pairs of gripping wings (located in B2) respectively crimped onto the

exposed conductive core (shown in Fig. 1) and the insulator (shown in Fig. 1). See Figs. 1-6.

With regard to Claim 8, Ohsumi discloses the housing (A) if formed with a plurality of latching bosses (3, 4) on a top thereof for being received in a corresponding latching slot (9) of a complementary connector (B). See Figs. 1-6.

6. Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohsumi (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,326) in view of Peloza (U.S. Patent No. 5,362,260) in further view of Peterson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,969). The combination of Ohsumi and Peloza discloses the claimed invention as shown above except for the housing defining a pair of channels at upper corners of the cavity, and the vertical arms have a pair of ribs at top ends thereof received in the channels.

Peterson et al. (Figs. 4-5) discloses a similar connector having a housing (12) defining a pair of channels (22) at upper corners of the cavity (16), and a contact (14) having a pair of ribs (48) at top ends thereof received in the channels.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the assembly of Ohsumi and Peloza by having the housing defining a pair of channels at upper corners of the cavity, and have a pair of ribs at top ends thereof received in the channels as taught in Peterson et al. in order to prevent movement from the contacts laterally or angularly relative to the housing. (Peterson et al., Column 3, Lines 45-49).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Childs (U.S. Patent No. 5,681,190), Kojima (U.S. Patent No. 6,375,501), Yamaguchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,993,268) and Lapraik et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,295,871) disclose connector assemblies having beams and tail portions.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (571) 272-2008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800, extension 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edwin A. Leon
Edwin A. Leon
AU 2833
EAL
September 17, 2005

JP
TRUCT.NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER